

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cigarette comprising a tobacco rod and a filter element connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod, wherein said filter element comprises:
  - a first longitudinally extending section of smoke-permeable filter material positioned at the end of the filter element proximal to the tobacco rod;
  - a second longitudinally extending section of filter material positioned at the end of the filter element distal from the tobacco rod and spaced apart from said first section of filter material, the two sections of filter material defining a compartment therebetween; and
  - an adsorbent material contained within at least a portion of said compartment, wherein a plurality of longitudinally extending channels extend through said first section of filter material, each of said channels being adapted for passage of mainstream smoke between said tobacco rod and said compartment, wherein said plurality of channels have a total cross-sectional area of about 0.1 to about 50 mm<sup>2</sup>.
- 2-3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of channels are spaced along the periphery of said first section of filter material.
5. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of channels are proximal to the central axis of said first section of filter material.
6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The cigarette of Claim [[6]] 1, wherein said plurality of channels have a total cross-sectional area of about 0.5 to about 15 mm<sup>2</sup>.
8. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said first section of filter material and said second section of filter material are each independently selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate tow, gathered cellulose acetate web, polypropylene tow, gathered polypropylene web, gathered polyester web, gathered paper, and strands of reconstituted tobacco.
9. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said first section of filter material and said second section of filter material comprise plasticized cellulose acetate tow.
10. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein the overall length of the filter element is about 15 to about 65 mm.
11. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 10, wherein the overall length of the filter element is about 25 to about 50 mm.
12. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein the length of each of the first and second sections of filter material is about 5 to about 25 mm.
13. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 12, wherein the length of each of the first and second sections of filter material is about 5 to about 15 mm.
14. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said compartment has a length of about 5 to about 20 mm.
15. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 14, wherein said compartment has a length of about 5 to about 10 mm.

16. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said adsorbent is selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, molecular sieves, clays, activated aluminas, silica gels, and mixtures thereof.
17. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said adsorbent is activated carbon.
18. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 17, wherein the activated carbon has an activity of about 60 to about 150 Carbon Tetrachloride Activity.
19. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said adsorbent is in granular form.
20. (Original) The cigarette of Claim 19, wherein said adsorbent has a particle size of about 8x16 mesh to about 30x70 mesh.
21. (Previously Presented) A cigarette comprising a tobacco rod and a filter element connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod, wherein said filter element comprises:
  - a first longitudinally extending section of smoke-permeable fibrous filter material positioned at the end of the filter element proximal to the tobacco rod;
  - a second longitudinally extending section of fibrous filter material positioned at the end of the filter element distal from the tobacco rod and spaced apart from said first section of filter material, the two sections of filter material defining a compartment therebetween; and
  - an adsorbent material contained within said compartment, the adsorbent material comprising activated carbon in granular form;wherein a plurality of longitudinally extending channels extend through said first section of filter material, each of said channels being adapted for passage of mainstream

smoke between said tobacco rod and said compartment and having a total cross-sectional area of about 0.1 to about 50 mm<sup>2</sup>.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 21, wherein the plurality of channels are spaced along the periphery of said first section of filter material.

24. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 21, wherein the plurality of channels are proximal to the central axis of said first section of filter material.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 21, wherein the number of channels is 2 to about 10.

27. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 1, wherein said smoke-permeable fibrous filter material has a denier per filament of about 1.8 to about 10.

28. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 21, wherein said smoke-permeable fibrous filter material has a denier per filament of about 1.8 to about 10.

29-30. (Cancelled)

31. (New) A cigarette comprising a tobacco rod and a filter element connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod, wherein said filter element comprises:

a first longitudinally extending section of smoke-permeable filter material positioned at the end of the filter element proximal to the tobacco rod;

a second longitudinally extending section of filter material positioned at the end of the filter element distal from the tobacco rod and spaced apart from said first section of filter material, the two sections of filter material defining a compartment therebetween; and

an adsorbent material contained within at least a portion of said compartment, wherein a plurality of longitudinally extending channels extend through said first section of filter material, each of said channels being adapted for passage of mainstream smoke between said tobacco rod and said compartment, wherein the number of channels is 2 to about 10.

32. (New) The cigarette of Claim 31, wherein the plurality of channels are spaced along the periphery of said first section of filter material.

33. (New) The cigarette of Claim 31, wherein the plurality of channels are proximal to the central axis of said first section of filter material.

34. (New) The cigarette of Claim 31, wherein the adsorbent material comprises activated carbon in granular form.